Climate Change 08/23/07 Comment Deadline: 9/14

From:

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To:

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Date:

8/22/2007 11:36:45 AM

Subject:

To Tam M. Doduc Re: A Solar Solution To California's Water Shortages

CLIMATE CHANGE AND WATER RESOURCES State Water Resources Control Board Tam M. Doduc Chairperson

August 22, 2007

Dear Chairperson Doduc,

Your strong environmental stand is much appreciated. Here in California, we are told that the snow packs on our mountain tops are shrinking. There's less and less fresh water to share between our growing populations, farmers, ranchers and wildlife.

The following article alerted me to the problem concerning "the four horsemen of the Apocalypse" oil fired, natural gas, coal and nuclear power plants. They all use copious amounts of our nation's fresh water resource.

Headline: U.S.WANTS TO CUT POWER PLANT WATER USAGE

Wed, 18 Jul 2007 20:32:16 GMT Science Technology News Author: Science News Editor

WASHINGTON, U.S. Department of Energy officials said thermoelectric power plants using coal, oil, natural gas and nuclear sources require significant amounts of water for cooling and are a major competitor for water resources. A 2000 study found electric power plants were the second largest U.S. user of fresh water, withdrawing 136 billion gallons of fresh water daily. Only agriculture used more water.

Energy Department officials said the goal is to achieve a 50 percent reduction in power plant fresh water usage by 2015.

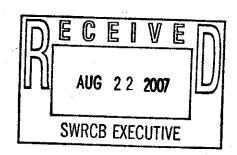
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The full article:

http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/84367.html

Solar electric roof shingles and solar electric panels use "no" water in the generation of clean renewable electricity. They have no moving parts, make no noise, cause no chemical reaction, require virtually no maintenance and are guaranteed for 25 years.

When one factors in the true cost of generating electricity,



solar electricity leads the field in clean, renewable, low cost energy production.

As our state's fresh water resources rapidly diminish and the demand exceeds the supply, can we afford to give oil fired, natural gas, coal and nuclear power plants our precious fresh water supply? I say, let's get solar.

Climate change has already impacted California's water resources. California can improve its flexibility to cope with an uncertain water future by working to seriously reduce water demand while practicing resource stewardship.

Harvey Sherback